

**ABSTRACT**

A method and an apparatus are provided for encoding frames of image data. Selected blocks one frame in a sequence are encoded with one or more quantization levels in a first range, and selected other blocks in the one frame are bypassed. In a  
5 frame that follows the one frame, the blocks corresponding to the bypassed blocks are encoded with one or more quantization levels in a second range of quantization levels, and the other blocks are bypassed for encoding.

005260-1268960